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PATENT

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Leake et al. Examiner: To be assigned  
Serial No.: 10/613077 Group Art Unit: To be assigned  
Filed: 01 July 2003  
For: Stabilized Polynucleotides for Use in RNA Interference

Customer No.: **\*23719\***

**23719**  
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Kalow & Springut LLP  
488 Madison Avenue, 19th Floor  
New York, New York 10022

19 August 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

SIR:

A check for \$1,770.00 is enclosed for excess claim fees, corresponding to the addition of 8 independent claims and 61 dependent claims with this amendment. Before examination on the merits, please enter the following amendments in the above-identified application:

08/21/2003 4:00 PM 00000000 00000000  
U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

**Certificate of Express Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10**

I hereby declare that on the date indicated below, this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service via Express Mail Label No. EV 035746725 US in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

(Signature)

TOR SHELTON  
(Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate)

19 August 2003  
(Date)